

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Laerz Airfield

25X1 EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

25X1 DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 17 July 1952

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 21 May 1952, there was flying at Laerz airfield. At 4:30 p.m., 37 swept-back jet fighters, 4 Yak-11s, 4 U-2s and 1 Tu-2 were counted at the field. Sixteen swept-back jet fighters, [redacted] and one type-29 [redacted] were parked on the dispersal area near the flight control station. Fifteen swept-back jet fighters which were covered with tarpaulins were observed on the dispersal area at the canal, and six uncovered MIG-15s were on the alert platform. Other planes were aloft. On 23 and 24 May, ten jet fighters instead of only six were observed on the alert platform. Between 26 and 30 May, 10 jet fighters were still observed on the alert platform. (1) Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 27 May 15 individual take-offs were made by jet fighters. Three type-29s were definitely observed. Between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 28 May, about 15 take-offs were performed by 2 type-29 jet fighters at intervals of 4 to 6 minutes. The landings were made at irregular intervals of between 2 and 10 minutes.

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2. On 21 May, 4 boxcars and 16 flatcars were being unloaded at the spur track of the field.

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[redacted] At 2:30 p.m. on 27 May, about 150 Soviet soldiers descended from four cars of a regular passenger train. Soon after their arrival, the soldiers erected tents along the canal, beginning at the settlement south of the airfield and extending toward the west about as far as the bridge.

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3. At 4:30 p.m. on 28 May, [redacted] 12 tents were newly erected just behind the fence between the northern end of the spur track and the point where the fence turns toward the north. On 30 May, six guns with two rubber tired wheels and probably of 37mm caliber, were observed being arranged in a circle about 60 meters in diameter, about 50 meters east of the 12 tents. On the afternoon of 30 May, another six guns of the same type were parked in a circle at the southern bend of the taxiway. This circle was smaller in diameter than the one observed in the morning. No tents were observed nearby. (3)

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4. Between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 1 June, 16 jet fighters made individual local flights. On 2 June, 16 jet fighters, [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] circled the field. (4) On 4 June, flying was again practiced. Between 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., 20 jet fighters were observed. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] Between 7:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 5 June, 12 jet fighters practiced flying. 25X1

5,

6. On 27 May, there was only little air activity at the field. Between 6 and 6:20 p.m., 30 MiG-15s and type-29s and 4 single-engine aircraft were counted at the field. More aircraft were parked at the field. On 3 June, there was intensive flying at the field. Between 6 and 8:30 a.m. on 7 June, about 55 MiG-15s and type-29s, 25 of which were counted, were parked at the field. Night flying was repeatedly observed over the field in late May and early June.

7. Sedan [redacted] and trucks [redacted] were observed entering and leaving the field. (5) 25X1

Comments.

(1) It has not been determined whether the number of alert planes stationed at the field has been increased temporarily or permanently. 25X1

(2)

(3) The AAA unit observed is probably identical with a shipment of 12 guns, which, [redacted] arrived at the field on 24 May. However, the statements on the caliber disagree. From the information that each emplacement consisted of six guns, it is inferred that there were two batteries of 37-mm guns. 25X1

(4)

(5) The report confirms previous information on the two fighter regiments and their status of training. It is believed that each regiment in Laerz is equipped with about 30 MiG-15s. [redacted] about 55 aircraft on 7 June, and [redacted] 56 planes on 24 May. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

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